BRITISH COLUMBIA
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BCStats

Infoline

Contact: bcstats.infoline@gov.bc.ca Issue: 10-50 December 17th, 2010

- **Manufacturing slips 0.4%**
- **Motor vehicle sales off 0.8%**
- **Women's income rises to $29,100**

The Economy

- **Manufacturing sales in the province were off 0.4% (*seasonally adjusted*) in October, following a 1.4% increase in the previous month.** Despite a 2.8% boost in sales of food products, non-durables fell flat (-0.1%), partly as a result of weakened sales by paper (-6.7%) and beverage & tobacco (-5.8%) producers. Makers of plastics & rubber (-5.3%) and printing (-1.9%) products also recorded losses. Lower sales by producers of many goods, including primary metals (-3.6%), machinery (-2.6%) and computer & electronics (-3.4%), acted to offset a 3.5% climb in the wood industry, leaving manufacturing sales down slightly (-0.4%) in October.

  Canadian manufacturing sales advanced 1.7% with the aerospace and primary metal industries reporting the largest gains. Manufacturers in Newfoundland & Labrador led the way in provincial gains, registering a 10.8% rise in sales. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

- **The number of new motor vehicles driven off the lot in British Columbia was down slightly in October (-0.8%, seasonally adjusted, to 13,256).** Nationally, sales were off 0.3%, with six provinces reporting a decline in sales. Only Quebec (+4.1%), Ontario (+0.8%) and parts of Atlantic Canada recorded increased sales. Nationally, lower sales of trucks were partially offset by higher sales of passenger cars.
  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **In October, 83,230 British Columbians were recipients of regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, relatively unchanged (-0.1%, *seasonally adjusted*) since September.** Nationally, the number of Canadians receiving regular benefits was 0.8% lower in October, with declines in most provinces managing to offset slight increases in beneficiaries in Ontario (+0.3%) and Saskatchewan (+0.5%).
  Data Source:Statistics Canada

Police Resources

- **As of May 15th, 2010 there were 9,044 police officers in the province, including 2,676 municipal police officers and 6,368 Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) officers.** Overall, this was equal to approximately one officer for every 500 British Columbians. The number of police per 100,000 population in the province (200) was 1.1% higher than in 2009. Among the province's largest cities, there were 3,968 police officers in Vancouver, just under 540 in Victoria, 273 in Abbotsford-Mission and 191 in Kelowna, which adds up to one police officer per 586, 654, 631 and 936 population, respectively.

  Saskatchewan, which experienced an increase of 6.1% in per capita police officer strength between 2009 and 2010, saw the strongest growth in police detail among the provinces. Other notable increases were seen in Alberta (+5.1%), New Brunswick (+2.2%), Newfoundland (+2.1%) and Ontario (+2.0%). Despite the recent growth in BC's police force, the province remains slightly below the national per capita rate of 203 officers per 100,000 Canadians. With a rate of 220 officers per 100,000 population, Saskatchewan had the highest rate for police strength among the provinces, while PEI (167) had the lowest.

  In 2010, slightly over a fifth (21%) of police officers in British Columbia were female, among the highest proportions in the country second only to Quebec (23%). The percentage of female police officers in Canada has been increasing steadily over the past few decades. While females represented just 4% of all police

Report BC's Export Picture Has Improved Over The Last Year

Did you know...

Nearly half (49%) of British Columbians plan to pay more attention to their holiday budgets this year, substantially more than the apparently more carefree Atlantic Canadians (29%).

Source: Ipsos Canada

officers in the country in 1985, by 2010, their proportion had grown to 19%.

Data Source: SC Cat.#85-225-XIE

Women and Income

- **In 2008, Canadian women earned an average total income of $30,100, 13% more than at the beginning of the decade ($26,300 in 2000).** This increase surpassed that for men over the same period (+7%), although men continued to have higher average incomes ($47,000). Among the provinces, women in Alberta ($34,000) and Ontario ($31,600) had the highest average total income, while those in Newfoundland & Labrador ($24,000), and New Brunswick ($24,600) earned the least. British Columbian women had an average income of $29,100 in 2008, compared to $47,600 for men. There are numerous factors that explain the disparity between the income received by men and women including occupational mix and prevalence of part-time workers.

For most Canadian families, earnings from employment make up the largest portion of income. The incidence of dual-income families has increased substantially over the past few decades. In 2008, 64% of husband-wife families were dual-earners and approximately 29% of wives in such families earned more than their husbands. Average annual earnings for both women and men rise with their level of education. Women working full-year, full-time with less than a Grade 9 education earned an average $20,800, just over a third (35%) of what women with a university degree earned $62,800. The gap for men was not quite as substantial: those with less than Grade 9 education earned $40,400, about 44% of the $91,800 earned by men with a university degree.

Data Source: SC Cat. no. 89-503-XIE

Note: Total income includes income from all sources including wages, salaries, pensions, investments and government transfers. Earnings refer to the monies received from paid work in the labour market. Neither income nor earnings is a measure of hourly wage or salary.

Energy Consumption

- **Canada's energy consumption slowed for the second straight year in 2009 (-2.0%), the result of lower demand from all major sectors of the economy. The residential & agricultural sector showed the most dramatic downturn (-4.3%), followed by the industrial (-1.6%), transportation (-1.4%) and commercial & public administration (-1.1%) sectors.** Overall, Canadians used 7,650 petajoules of energy in 2009. By comparison, British Columbians consumed 910 petajoules, roughly one-fifth of all energy consumed in the country. Consumption in Ontario, Alberta and Quebec continued to account for most of the energy consumed in Canada. In 2009, their share represented nearly three quarters (72%) of Canada's total energy demand. Energy demand increased in Alberta (+5.6%), Saskatchewan (+5.2%), and New Brunswick (+0.7%) last year.

In terms of supply, Canada produced 15,326 petajoules of energy from all sources in 2009. To put these figures into perspective, 30 litres of gasoline contains roughly one gigajoule of energy and a petajoule is the equivalent of one million gigajoules. *Data Source: SC Cat. no. 57-003-XIE*

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at BC Stats!

We're taking a break for the holidays. The next issue of Infoline will be The 2010 Index. Our regular format will resume on January 7th, 2011.

***Infoline* Issue: 10-50**
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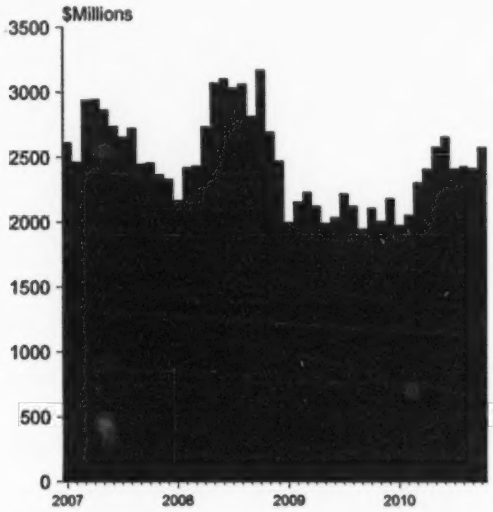
Contact: Dan Schrier
(250) 387-0376
originally published in
Exports, issue 2010-10

BC's Export Picture Has Improved Over the Last Year

Compared to a rather dismal performance in 2009, BC's exporters have had much greater success so far in 2010. Over the first ten months of 2010, BC origin exports have increased 13.8% compared to the same period a year earlier; however, there is still a long way to go to recover completely to levels achieved in 2008.

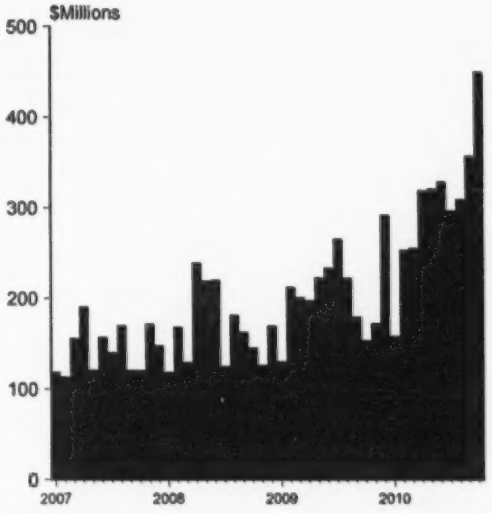
BC's exports have increased significantly in the last year, but have not fully recovered from the 2009 meltdown



Source: Statistics Canada

Mainland China has become a significant trade partner for British Columbia and has helped offset some of the slowdown in other export markets.

BC exports to Mainland China continue to grow



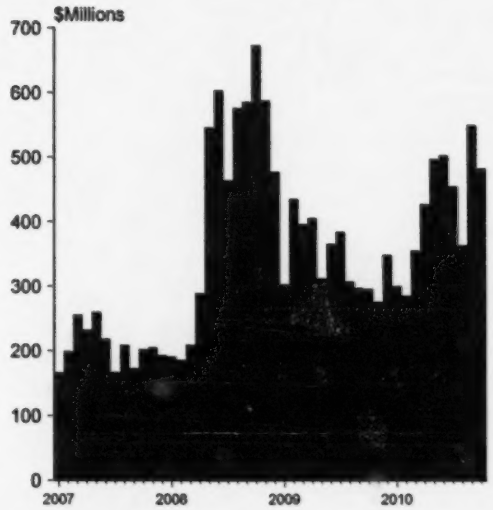
Source: Statistics Canada

The United States' share of BC's exports has been falling over the last several years, while that of Mainland China has been growing

Source: Statistics Canada

One commodity that has performed quite well over the last few years is coal, partly due to demand from China, but also from Europe and elsewhere. Coal has surpassed softwood lumber as BC's top export over the last few years.

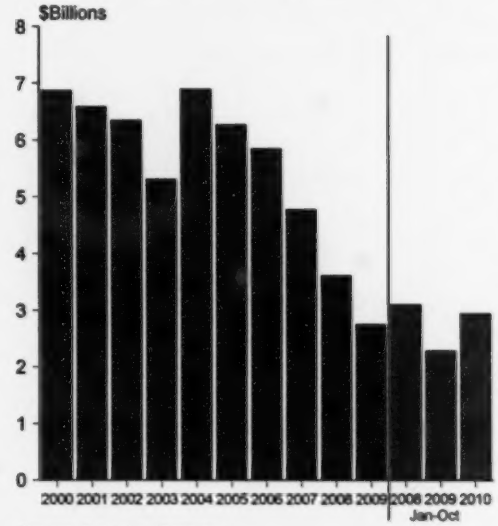
Coal has been a significant contributor to BC's exports in recent years



Source: Statistics Canada

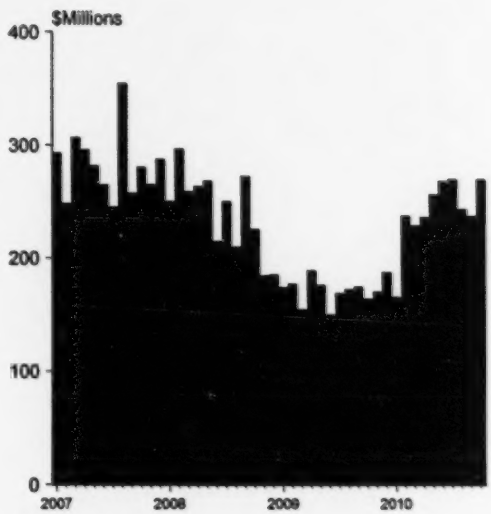
BC's forest sector has struggled in recent years and softwood lumber no longer dominates BC's export picture like it once did. On the positive side, both lumber and pulp exports have bounced back from the downturn in 2009.

Exports of softwood lumber have mostly recovered from the 2009 slump, but are still low compared to historical levels



Source: Statistics Canada

Pulp shipments have bounced back



Source: Statistics Canada

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also on the Internet at www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca or choose RSS

BC at a glance . . .

POPULATION (thousands)	Jul 1/2010	% change on one year ago
BC	4,531.0	1.6
Canada	34,108.8	1.2
GDP and INCOME (Released Nov 4)		
(BC - at market prices)	2009	% change on one year ago
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *($ millions)*	191,006	-3.4
GDP *($ 2002 millions)*	161,851	-1.8
GDP *($ 2002 per Capita) (reflects revised pop)*	36,287	-3.5
Personal Disposable Income *($ 2002 per Capita)*	25,374	-1.9
TRADE ($ millions, seasonally adjusted)		% change on prev. month
Manufacturing Shipments - Oct 2010	3,043	-0.4
Merchandise Exports - Oct 2010	2,444	0.8
Retail Sales - Sep 2010	4,814	0.6
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	% change on one year ago	12-month avg % change
(all items - Oct 2010)		
BC	2.4	1.0
Vancouver	3.0	1.4
Victoria	2.1	0.7
Canada	2.4	1.6
LABOUR FORCE (thousands)	Nov 2010	% change on prev. month
(seasonally adjusted)		
Jobs Created (-Lost) - BC	4.3	
Labour Force - BC	2,499.1	-0.3
Employed - BC	2,326.1	0.2
Unemployed - BC	173.0	-6.5
		Oct 2010
Unemployment Rate - BC *(percent)*	6.9	7.4
Unemployment Rate - Canada *(percent)*	7.6	7.9
INTEREST RATES (percent)	Dec 15/2010	Dec 16/2009
Prime Business Rate	3.00	2.25
Conventional Mortgages - 1 year	3.35	3.60
- 5 year	5.19	5.49
US-CANADA EXCHANGE RATE	Dec 15/2010	Dec 16/2009
(avg. noon spot rate) Cdn $ per US $	1.0035	1.0580
(closing rate) US $ per Cdn $	0.9960	0.9430
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE RATE		% change on one year ago
(industrial aggregate - dollars)	Nov 2010	
BC	818.75	2.0
Canada	828.42	2.1

SOURCES:

Population, Gross Domestic Product, Trade, Prices, Labour Force, Wage Rate } Statistics Canada

Interest Rates, Exchange Rates: Bank of Canada Weekly Financial Statistics

For latest Weekly Financial Statistics see www.bankofcanada.ca

Science Related Occupations

How many people work in science-related occupations? Which industries employ them? What's the labour market outlook for workers in these occupations? A recently-released report on science-related occupations explores these issues. On WorkBC site; authored by BC Stats.

http://workbc.ca/docs/BC_Science_Related_Occupations.pdf

Trade Occupations Outlook to 2019

The BC Trade Occupations Outlook report provides an outlook for trade occupations for the province as a whole, as well as for its seven development regions for the period 2009-2019. The analysis is based on a representative list of 15 trade occupations covering 82 separate trades and over 85 percent of active B.C. apprentices as of June 30, 2010. Selected occupations are concentrated in two NOC skill types: Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations (NOC7), and Sales and Service Occupations (NOC6). The occupational forecast included in this report comes from the B.C. Labour Market Outlook: 2009-2019 report, which was produced from B.C.'s new Labour Market Scenario Model.

http://workbc.ca/docs/BC_tradesoccupationoutlook_2009-2019.pdf

Small Business Profile 2010

The 2010 Edition of the annual profile of small business in British Columbia is now available. The report provides information on British Columbia's small businesses, including number of businesses, employment and small business' contribution to the provincial economy.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/bus_stat/busind/sm_bus.asp#sbp

Released this week by BC Stats

- Exports, October 2010
- Tourism Sector Monitor, November 2010

Next week

- Consumer Price Index, November 2010
- Population Highlights, Third Quarter 2010

BC Stats, Box 9410 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, B.C. V8W 9V1

Tel: 250-387-0327 Fax: 250-387-0380 Web: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca E-mail: BC.Stats@gov.bc.ca